

IN THE CLAIMS

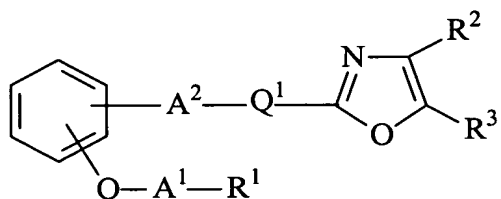
Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention and/or treatment of skin ulcer or bedsore in humans or animals which comprises~~ A method for preventing or treating a skin ulcer or decubitus ulcer (bedsore) comprising:

administering an effective amount of one or more a nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂ agonist(s) to a subject in need thereof as an active ingredient.

2 (Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention and/or treatment of~~ The method of Claim 1, wherein said skin ulcer is a diabetic skin ulcer in
B2 ~~humans or animals which comprises a nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂ agonist as an active ingredient.~~

3 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in~~
The method of Claim 1, wherein the nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂ agonist is a compound of the following general formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof:



{wherein

R¹ is carboxy or protected carboxy,

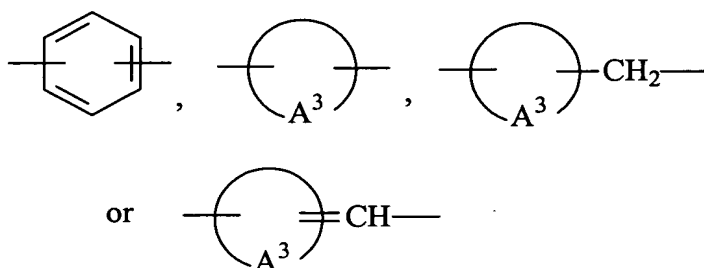
R² is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

R³ is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

A¹ is lower alkylene,

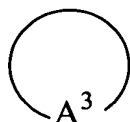
A^2 is a single bond or lower alkylene and

$-Q^1-$ is:



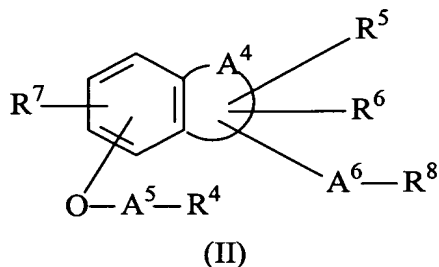
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(in which



represents cyclo(lower)alkane or cyclo(lower)alkene, which respectively may optionally have one or more suitable substituents).

4 (Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in~~ The method of
 Claim 1, wherein the nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂ agonist is a compound of the following
 general formula (II) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



B2 {wherein

R⁴ is carboxy or protected carboxy,

R⁵ is hydrogen, hydroxy or protected hydroxy,

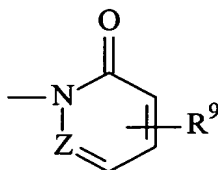
R⁶ is hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, lower alkyl or halogen,

R⁷ is hydrogen or halogen,

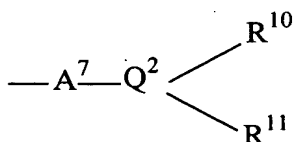
A⁵ is lower alkylene,

A⁶ is a single bond or lower alkylene and

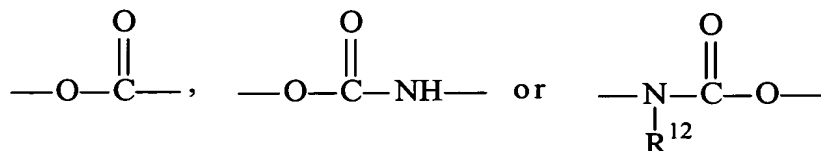
-R⁸ is:



(in which R⁹ is mono(or di or tri)aryl(lower)alkyl and Z is N or CH) or



(in which $-A^7-$ is:



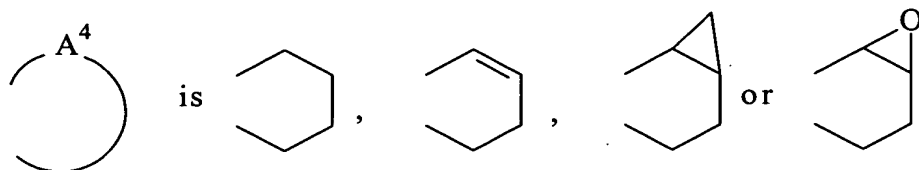
in which R^{12} is hydrogen or lower alkyl),

Q^2 is N or CH,

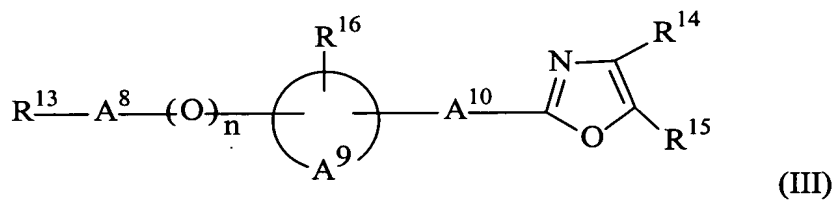
R^{10} is aryl and

R^{11} is aryl), and

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5. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in~~
The method of Claim 1, wherein the nonprostanoid prostaglandin I_2 agonist is a compound of
 the following general formula (III) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



{wherein

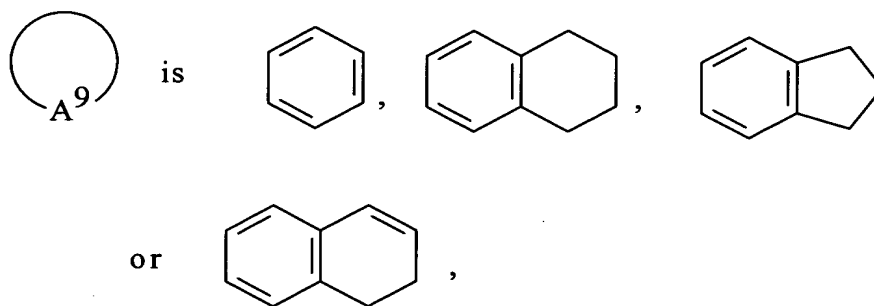
R^{13} is carboxy or protected carboxy,

R^{14} is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

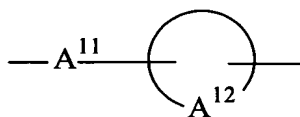
R^{15} is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

R^{16} is hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy or aryl,

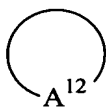
A^8 is lower alkylene,



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 $-A^{10}-$ is:



(in which $-A^{11}-$ is a single bond, $-\text{CH}_2-$ or $-\text{CO}-$,



represents cyclo($\text{C}_5\text{--}\text{C}_8$)alkene, cyclo($\text{C}_7\text{--}\text{C}_8$)alkane, bicycloheptane, bicycloheptene, tetrahydrofuran, tetrahydrothiophene, azetidine, pyrrolidine or piperidine, which respectively may optionally have one or more suitable substituents) or $-\text{X}-\text{A}^{13}-$ (in which $-\text{X}-$ is $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, or $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{17})-$ (R^{17} being hydrogen, lower alkyl or acyl) and A^{13} is lower alkylene which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents) and n is 0 or 1}.

6 (Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 1,~~
~~wherein the A method for preventing or treating a skin ulcer or decubitus ulcer (bedsore)~~
~~comprising administering an effective amount of one or more nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂~~
~~agonist(s) is selected from the group consisting of:~~

(1) [3-[[[(1S)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)-2-cyclohexen-1-yl]methyl]phenoxy]acetic
acid,

(2) [3-[[[(1S)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)-2-cyclopenten-1-yl]methyl]phenoxy]acetic
acid,

(3) [(2R)-5-(carboxymethoxy)-2-hydroxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-2-yl]methyl]N,N-
diphenylcarbamate,

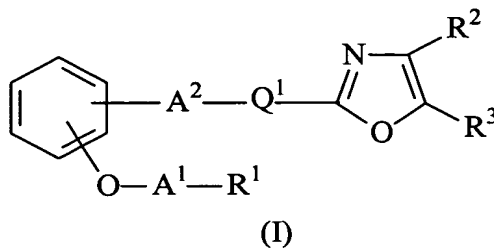
B2 (4) (1R)-1-[(2R)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]-5-carboxymethoxy-
1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene or

(5) [3-[[[(2R)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl]phenoxy]acetic acid,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7 (Cancelled):

8 (Cancelled):

9 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in~~
The method of Claim 2, wherein the nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂ agonist is a compound of
the following general formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



{wherein

R^1 is carboxy or protected carboxy,

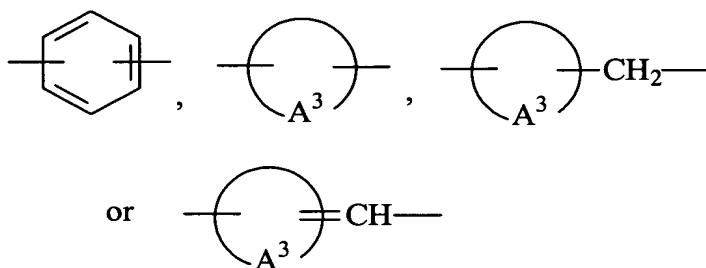
R^2 is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

R^3 is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

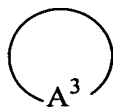
A^1 is lower alkylene,

A^2 is a single bond or lower alkylene and

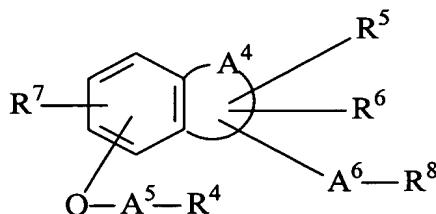
$-Q^1-$ is:



(in which

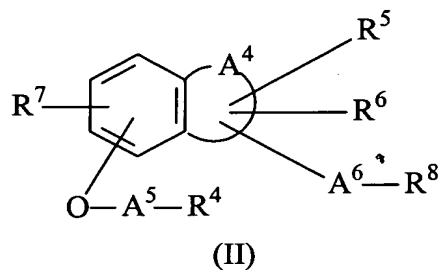


represents cyclo(lower)alkane or cyclo(lower)alkene, which respectively may optionally have



one or more suitable substituents)].

10 (Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in~~ The method of
Claim 2, wherein the nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂ agonist is a compound of the following
general formula (II) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



{wherein

R⁴ is carboxy or protected carboxy,

R⁵ is hydrogen, hydroxy or protected hydroxy,

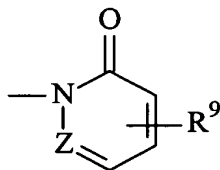
R⁶ is hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, lower alkyl or halogen,

R⁷ is hydrogen or halogen,

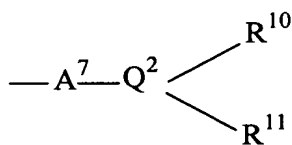
A⁵ is lower alkylene,

A⁶ is a single bond or lower alkylene and

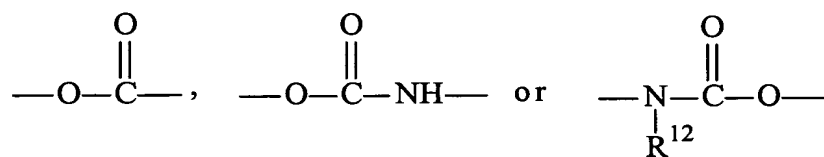
-R⁸ is:



(in which R⁹ is mono(or di or tri)aryl(lower)alkyl and Z is N or CH) or



(in which $-A^7-$ is:

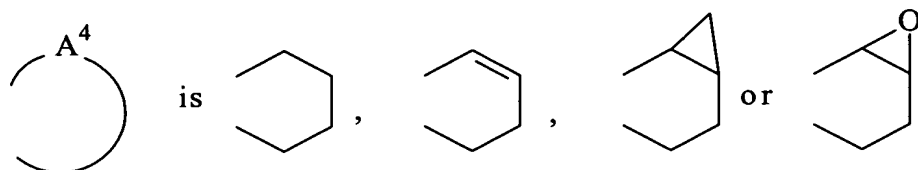


(in which R^{12} is hydrogen or lower alkyl),

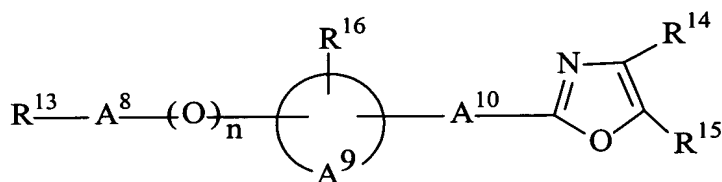
Q^2 is N or CH,

R^{10} is aryl and

R^{11} is aryl), and



11 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in~~
The method of Claim 2, wherein the nonprostanoid prostaglandin I_2 agonist is a compound of
 the following general formula (III) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



{wherein

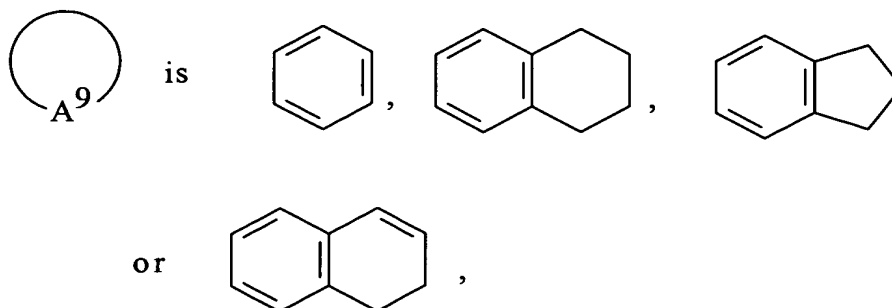
R^{13} is carboxy or protected carboxy,

R^{14} is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

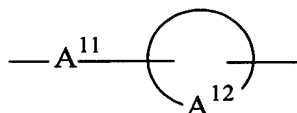
R^{15} is aryl which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents,

R^{16} is hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy or aryl,

A^8 is lower alkylene,

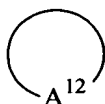


-A¹⁰- is:



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(in which -A¹¹- is a single bond, -CH₂- or -CO-,



represents cyclo(C₅-C₈)alkene, cyclo(C₇-C₈)alkane, bicycloheptane, bicycloheptene, tetrahydrofuran, tetrahydrothiophene, azetidine, pyrrolidine or piperidine, which respectively may optionally have one or more suitable substituents) or -X-A¹³- (in which -X- is -O-, -S-, or -N(R¹⁷)- (R¹⁷ being hydrogen, lower alkyl or acyl) and A¹³ is lower alkylene which may optionally have one or more suitable substituents) and n is 0 or 1}.

12 (Currently Amended): ~~A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in~~ The method of Claim 2, wherein the nonprostanoid prostaglandin I₂ agonist is

(1) [3-[[[(1S)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)-2-cyclohexen-1-yl]methyl]phenoxy]acetic acid,

(2) [3-[[[(1S)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)-2-cyclopenten-1-yl]methyl]phenoxy]acetic acid,

(3) [(2R)-5-(carboxymethoxy)-2-hydroxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-2-yl]methyl]N,N-diphenylcarbamate,

(4) (1R)-1-[(2R)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]-5-carboxymethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene or

(5) [3-[[[(2R)-2-(4,5-diphenyloxazol-2-yl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]methyl]phenoxy]acetic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said ulcer is an ulcer of a lower limb.

14 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said ulcer is a burn ulcer.

15 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said ulcer is a traumatic ulcer.

16 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said ulcer is a crural (cnemial) ulcer.

17 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said ulcer is a decubitus ulcer (bedsore).

18 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said ulcer is associated with diabetic gangrene.

19 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said subject is a human.

20 (New): The method of Claim 1, wherein said subject is not a human.

21 (New): The method of Claim 3, comprising administering a salt of the compound of general formula (I).

22 (New): The method of Claim 3, comprising administering a solvate of the compound of general formula (I).
